

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for determining a surface tension of a solution in a container using a bubble pressure process, the method comprising:
 - introducing a gas volume flow into the solution using a capillary;
 - determining a time-dependent pressure profile of the gas volume flow during a bubble formation using a pressure sensor;
 - interrupting the gas volume flow during a latter portion of the determining by closing the capillary over an entire cross section of the capillary over at least a part of a length of the capillary.
2. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the solution is a surfactant solution.
3. A system for determining a surface tension of a solution in a container using a bubble pressure process, the system comprising:
 - a capillary configured to introduce a gas volume flow into the solution;
 - a pressure sensor configured to determine a time-dependent pressure profile of the gas volume flow during a bubble formation;
 - a closing device for the capillary, the closing device being movable from a measuring position to a locking position, wherein in the locking position the capillary is sealed from the solution in a liquid-tight manner.
4. The system as recited in claim 3 wherein the solution is a surfactant solution.
5. The system as recited in claim 3 further comprising an evaluation circuit configured to determine the time-dependent pressure profile of the gas volume flow; and
 - a control device configured to operate the closing device and being in communication with the evaluation circuit.
6. The system as recited in claim 3 wherein a length of the capillary is at most half a diameter of the capillary.
7. The system as recited in claim 3 wherein:

the capillary has a first outlet directed toward the solution and a second outlet opening into a chamber; and

the closing device includes a cleaning needle configured to be moved into the capillary from inside the chamber.

8. The system as recited in claim 7 further comprising a seal encircling the cleaning needle, the seal being configured to contact a wall of the chamber when the closing device is in the locking position.

9. The system as recited in claim 6 wherein the closing device is movable pneumatically.

10. The system as recited in claim 7 wherein the closing device is movable pneumatically.

11. The system as recited in claim 6 wherein the closing device is movable electromagnetically.

12. The system as recited in claim 7 wherein the closing device is movable electromagnetically.

13. The system as recited in claim 3 wherein the capillary includes a bore disposed in a first ceramic disk and wherein the closing device includes a second ceramic disk having an opening, the opening being movable in front of the capillary in a measuring position of the closing device.

14. The system as recited in claim 13 wherein the second ceramic disk is disposed on a side of the capillary facing the solution.

15. The system as recited in claim 14 further comprising a cleaning element insertable into an orifice of the capillary opposite the solution.

16. The system as recited in claim 14 wherein at least one of the second ceramic disk and the cleaning element are movable by at least one of an electromotive drive device, an electromagnetic drive device, a piezoelectric actuator, and a memory metal.